

JPRS-TTP-84-007

23 March 1984

Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

FBIS

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23 March 1984

WORLDWIDE REPORT
TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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SHARED INFORMATION STORAGE SYSTEM BEING INTRODUCED

Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 26 Jan 84 Business Standard p 3

[Text]

A SIGNIFICANT contribution to office automation in the form of a "shared resource" system of information storage has just been introduced to Hong-kong by EAC Business Systems.

The CPT SRS 45 Intelligent Shared Resource System provides a high performance means of accessing word and dataprocessing information from a central database through up to eight directly connected consoles. The system combines the advantages of the decentralised office with a centralised database at a low cost.

The consoles are linked to a central storage device with four-wire cables of up to a thousand feet in length. This means that up to eight operators in the same or different offices can access information simultaneously.

Mr Bo Frank Nielsen of EAC explained that the system is superior to floppy disk storage because it can retain up to 30 megabytes of information per disc drive as opposed to 300 kilobytes for floppy disks. It also provides multiple access on a read-only basis therefore avoiding the risk of changing data.

"The system has numerous advantages," said Mr Nielsen. "All common data is stored in one place, so files can be updated in a single operation rather than at each workstation. Integrity of data when transmitted to the consoles is assured through a special Intelligent High Speed Adaptor Board which checks for errors in every data exchange."

The SRS 45 can support word processing and data processing on both private and public files. The public files can be accessed by all consoles, but confidential information can also be stored separately and accessed by only one user. The system allocates private filing space to each console.

CSO: 5500/7513

CABLE & WIRELESS NOTES TECHNICAL, FUNDING PLANS FOR TELCO

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 10 Feb 84 Business News p 1

[Text]

Cable and Wireless PLC, which this week increased its holding in Hongkong Telephone Co to 52.35 per cent of Telco's equity, yesterday promised a continuation of "the best and cheapest telephone service in the Far East."

The British telecommunications concern has offered to purchase all of the outstanding Telco shares at \$46 each.

However, a significant minority shareholding is likely to remain when the offer closes.

A letter will be sent to shareholders in two to three weeks containing details of the offer.

At a press conference, the chairman, Mr Eric Sharp, said there would be no change in Telco's substantial capital development plans.

The company intends expenditure of \$5 billion over the next five years, he said.

Over the same period, he pledged capital expenditure by Cable and Wireless (HK) of more than \$2.5 billion, mainly on improving the international service.

Cable and Wireless (HK) is owned

80 per cent by its British parent and the remaining equity is held by the Hongkong Government.

Cable and Wireless (HK) general manager, local engineering, Mr Fung Hak-ming, also indicated there would be substantial technological improvements over the next few years.

The press conference re-sounded the theme of the Cable and Wireless offer, promising that the ownership of a majority interest in Telco would result in a more rational usage of the combined strengths of the two Hongkong subsidiaries.

The Cable and Wireless team declined to give details when asked how the rationalisation would be pursued in Hongkong.

But they said Cable and Wireless's ability to use Hongkong as a focal point for development in the Far East in general would be enhanced.

Hongkong and the Far East has been a substantial contributor to Cable and Wireless earnings.

Although the contribution fell to just under 50 per cent last year, it will be substantially increased from this year

onwards due to the larger equity stake in Hongkong Telephone, Mr Sharp said.

The Cable and Wireless chairman gave particular prominence to plans to add to the group's operations in China.

"We are continuing discussion with the Chinese authorities and I've no doubt that opportunities will occur and these opportunities will be facilitated by closer relations with Hongkong Telephone," he said.

Cable and Wireless has no immediate plans for changes at either board or senior management level, he said.

He said there were also no immediate plans to change the structure of either Cable and Wireless (HK) or Hongkong Telephone.

He dismissed the possibility of a fund-raising exercise by Hongkong Telephone in the near future.

The Cable and Wireless purchase of Hongkong Telephone shares, which may cost around \$2 billion, is to be financed by group resources supplemented by normal lines of credit, which are likely to be arranged in Hongkong.

CSO: 5500/7513

NEW NATIONWIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM BY DEC 1984

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 27 Jan 84 p 24

[Text] A sophisticated telecommunications system whereby Malaysians can telephone each other in any part of the country, including in deep jungle where there are no telephone lines, would be launched nationwide end of the year.

Deputy Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Post, Datuk Haji Suhaimi bin Datuk Haji Kamaruddin in announcing this yesterday said the system called automatic telephone using radio (Atur) would enable people to contact each other by phone from the car, ferry, jungle and even overseas.

This computerised system using radio waves, he said, is estimated to cost between \$50 million and \$60 million and would provide the nation with one of the most modern telecommunications systems in this region.

Presently only Japan, the US, Canada, Denmark and the Scandinavian countries of Finland, Norway and Sweden are using this system.

Datuk Haji Suhaimi who had earlier opened a three-day seminar on "privatization of telecommunications system" at the Regional Educational Centre for Science and Mathematics (Recsam) in Panang said the implementation of this system would be done in stages.

"We intend to do it very cautiously as this is a new technology. We will be conducting tests," he said.

The system, he said, could be used in carphones, on ferries or even in remote areas such as in jungle or in open cast mining areas where people may need to contact each other.

He said it would cost about \$6 million to \$7 million for the government to install telephone lines for say a village of 200 people under the present system.

However, with Atur, the cost is expected to be lower although actual costs would vary in different areas.

Under the present carphone system, he said, people could only contact each other within a certain radius but with Atur one can phone from one's car to even overseas.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING CENTER PART OF SECOND JAPANESE AID PACKAGE FOR CHINA

OW011231 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Tokyo, 1 Mar (KYODO)--Japan plans to extend more than 400 billion yen (1.7 billion dollars) in credit to China under the second economic cooperation package starting in fiscal 1984, government sources said Thursday. The planned package also will include loans by the Export-Import Bank of Japan for oil and coal resources development and grant aid for several projects, including one for building a communications training center in Beijing.

How long the new second package will run is still not fixed, but it is expected to cover five to seven years. A final draft of the package will be drawn around March 10 after a government factfinding group returns from China. Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone will show the Chinese the economic aid package during his China tour March 23-26.

Japan, which offered a total of 300 billion yen (1.3 billion dollars) under the first five-year package which ends at the end of this month, has already agreed to continue the aid package to help China carry out its modernization plan. The tentative package will include seven projects such as the improvement of railway and telecommunications networks in China. In connection with the Eximbank loans, China asked Japan to offer 3 billion dollars during the third bilateral ministerial conference in Beijing last September. Japan has already extended a total of 2 billion dollars in Eximbank loans from 1979. The amount of the Eximbank loans will be decided item-by-item on the basis of the Chinese requests for energy resources development, they said.

Nakasone will offer to continue grant aid after completion this spring of the Japan-China Friendship Hospital in Beijing, the first project to be constructed by Japan's grant aid. Talks are underway between the two countries to decide which projects should get grant aid, the sources added. The sources said the provision of optical fibers and other materials equivalent to about 3 billion yen for the Beijing telecommunications training center is one of the most likely projects.

CSO: 5500/4177

OPTICAL FIBER COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AT EXPORT FAIR

Beijing DIANZI JISHU YINGYONG [APPLICATION OF ELECTRONIC TECHNIQUE] in Chinese No 8, 1983 p 46

[Report by Tang Dingfan [3282 1353 5672]]

[Text] The Joint Body for Optical Fiber Communication of the Ministry for Electronics Industry specializes in research in and promotion of fiber and optics and transmission technology, developing such equipment as LASERS, light-emitting diodes, quartz prefabricated components, fiber optic cable, Avalanche and PIN model optical electrical diodes, optical connectors, optical attenuators, optical multiplexers, optical switches and so on, all of which can be mass-produced. There are complete equipment systems such as 8.448-Mb/s and 34.368-Mb/s digital optical cable transmission systems, pulse frequency-modulated optical channel units, analog direct-intensity modulated optical cable image and voice communication equipment, electronic computerized optical fiber star network systems and other products.

The GQM-3 Optical Cable Image and Voice Communication Equipment developed by the Joint Body for Optical Fiber Communication of the Ministry for Electronics Industry was exhibited and marketed at the 53d China Export Commodities Fair held from 15 April to 5 May 1983. This is our country's first piece of optical cable communication equipment to be entered in the Guangzhou Trade Fair. This equipment is a three-section intercommunicating industrial video optical-fiber monitoring and display system using direct analog intensity modulation to transmit video frequency, voice frequency and telephone ringing control signals. The optical multiplexer system is composed of a light-emitting diode (LED), a light-beam multiplexer, an Si-PIN optical detector and a nonmetallic reinforced single-core optical cable. As a result of the adoption of the light-beam multiplexer, the three-section optical channel equipment can exchange images as well as communicate in both directions by telephone. Automatic function-detection signals are available on the video and voice frequency channels. This system can transmit black and white industrial television as well as color television and is particularly suited for use in environments with strong electromagnetic interference or in departments with confidential security requirements. During the Guangzhou Trade Fair, on-site demonstrations of actual imaging and video recording in color were conducted with high-resolution image transmission and distinct voice transmission.

HANGZHOU MEETING ON RADIO INTERFERENCE CONTROL STANDARDIZATION

Beijing TONGXIN XUEBAO [JOURNAL OF CHINA INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATIONS] in Chinese No 3, 1983 p 96

[Text] In May 1983, the China Standardization Association held a meeting in Hangzhou for academic exchanges on radio interference control. Arrangements for the meeting were made by the Shanghai Electrical Equipment Scientific Research Institute. Participating in the meeting were 46 delegates with long experience in the research, education, management and other aspects of radio theory, electromagnetic compatibility technology and radio interference control.

At the meeting 22 papers were read, and it was considered by the delegates that these papers reflected the actual situation with respect to the progress of our country's research in radio interference control and to a definite degree reflected the level of our country's research in electromagnetic compatibility technology and standardization work. They will have a definite reference and directive effect on electrical and electronic products as well as on electrical engineering and construction. The delegates to the meeting proposed that the conference publish the collection of papers to carry out an even broader exchange. They also proposed that the State Standards Bureau formulate and promulgate expeditiously state standards related to radio interference control to facilitate the carrying out of our country's electrical engineering and construction, product'on design and production in strict accordance with the technical requirements of electromagnetic compatibility.

8174

CSO: 5500/4136

SHANDONG MEETING ON LONG-DISTANCE ELECTRIC CABLE INFLATION MAINTENANCE

Beijing DIANXIN JISHU [TELECOMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY] in Chinese No 8, 1983 p 1

[Text] From 6 to 9 April 1983, the General Telecommunications Bureau of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and the Publishing House of People's Posts and Telecommunications jointly convened a "Long-Distance Electric Cable Inflation Maintenance Technique Seminar" in Jining City in Shandong Province. A total of 51 delegates participated in the conference, representing 32 units of the Telecommunications System as well as the Research and Design Department of the Railway Ministry, the Beijing Television Broadcasting Department, the Beijing Military District and Guangxi [PLA] Unit 54465.

During the seminar, there were wide-ranging interchanges of experience with the electric cable inflation maintenance technique (leak detection in electric cables with various types of sheathing, experience in the use of remote signaling equipment, troubleshooting and repair of inflation equipment, achievements in innovation, experience in receipt inspection and management, etc.). Dryness standards for gases and standards for safeguarding flow rates of gases were probed. During the seminar, a tour of the Jining 500 Electric Cable Station and a leak detection demonstration were conducted.

8174

CSO: 5500/4136

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BRIEFS

NEW HANGZHOU TV STATION--The Hangzhou Television Station is officially scheduled to start broadcasting in the evening of 31 January 1984. People in the Hangzhou City area and its suburbs can tune in Channel 11 programs presented by this TV station. Source carries a photograph showing an operator testing the equipment. [Text] [Hangzhou ZHEJIANG RIBAO in Chinese 30 Jan 84 p 1]

CSO: 5500/4176

BRIEFS

ERICSSON EXPANDING ACTIVITIES--Orders for telecommunications equipment worth a total of nearly 2 billion kronor are behind the recent establishment of new branches in South Korea by the Ericsson electronics company. The Swedish firm has just finished building a plant for the production of telecommunications equipment: "In cooperation with one of South Korea's leading electronics firms. In addition, Ericsson has just started its own subsidiary in the country." Ericsson has so far received orders for 800 million kronor worth of AXE equipment from South Korea. It also expects to install 765,000 new AXE lines in the country between 1984 and 1986--a deal worth billions of kronor. When the AXE system is firmly established in South Korea, Ericsson's work of selling a nationwide mobile telephone system will become easier. [Text] [Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 7 Feb 84 p 8] 11798

CSO: 5500/2598

VIDEOCONFERENCE NETWORK EXPANDED

Montreal LA PRESSE in French 26 Jan 84 p D 3

[Article by Carole Thibaudeau]

[Text] Three new Canadian cities have been added to the Canadian videoconference network with Telecom Canada is setting up from one ocean to the other. Victoria, Edmonton, and Vancouver are now offering this high-technology service to businessmen, as Calgary and Toronto have been doing since last September.

"Conference 600", as Telecom has named it, allows small groups in two different cities to meet by videoconference. This is a bidirectional service which is transmitted via the Anick 3 satellite.

It is designed to provide an additional tool to enterprises whose activities are scattered, as in the fields of finance, public administration, insurance, oil, and other major industries for which the videoconference represents a considerable saving of time and money for travel.

"We have two types of customers for this service," explains Mr Jacques Kirouac, engineer with Bell Canada. First of all, the large and medium-size enterprises, which have their own videoconference room built and then only have to subscribe to the Conference 600 service."

It can cost between \$35,000 and several hundred thousand dollars to construct the necessary installations. At present, there are only five customers of this type, including the University of Quebec, IBM (in Montreal and Toronto), and the government of Ontario. These subscribers have a total of 17 videoconference studios.

"The other type of customer is smaller or has needs that are too sporadic to invest in a sophisticated room," says Kirouac. In that case, we offer them public halls: we have about ten of them throughout the country which we rent for \$111 per day."

The service is billed on the basis of time and distance: \$191 per hour between Montreal and Toronto and \$1,000 per hour between Montreal and Vancouver.

"We estimate that the Montreal-Toronto service is utilized at 80 percent of its full capacity," adds Kirouac.

It is expected that 19 cities will belong to the network by the end of 1984. Six cities will be added in 1985, five more in 1986, and a final one in 1987, for a total of 31 Canadian cities.

CSO: 5500/2610

ISLAMIC NATIONS BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION HOLDS CONGRESS

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic No 316, 12 Dec 83 p 23

[Article by 'Abd-al-Wahab al-Qaysi: "Majid Ahmad al-Samarra'i Elected Chairman of Islamic Nations Broadcasting Federation by Iraq, Tells AL-DUSTUR: 'Unified Programs for Islamic Nations Broadcasting'"]

[Text] Baghdad--The sixth session of the General Congress of the Islamic Nations Broadcasting Organization has concluded. It was held under the auspices of Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nusayyif Jasim and was attended by about 32 African, Asian, Arab and other Islamic nations. The sixth session established a broadcast programs plan among Islamic nations and the method of exchanging radio and television broadcast programs for the next 2 years. The congress elected Iraq, represented by Dr Majid Ahmad al-Samarra'i, head of the Public Foundation for Radio and Television Broadcasting in Iraq, as head of the general congress. The session lasted roughly 6 days, during which time Baghdad became a folklore capital for the conferees, where they were viewed in their costumes as they wandered about the streets of Baghdad. Their identities could almost be determined by the costumes they were wearing.

The sixth session adopted a set of resolutions for their program for the next 2 years.

AL-DUSTUR met with the new chairman, Dr Majid Ahmad al-Samarra'i, after his election and discussed with him the resolutions of the sixth session, its upcoming programs, and the importance of the conference with regard to establishing the planning for programs and radio and television broadcasting.

He stated that the sixth session of the Islamic Nations Broadcasting Federation was convened in a critical period for the Arab community and the Islamic world and at a time when serious challenges are increasingly aimed at the history of the community, its existence, its values and its future. The forces of evil and aggression are assailing these peoples, and the people of the Arab community in particular. These challenges and threats take various forms, among the most prominent of which is the action to distort the essence of the Islamic religion and its various meanings and spiritual values in a campaign led by Khomeyni and his regime: A man who hates the Arabs and who is veiled with the cloak of religion, while he is devoid of religion, and a regime based on expansion, aggression, killing, destroying and sowing dissension among Islamic peoples, because it stands in the ranks with the enemies of Islam. Thus, media

people bear a responsibility, especially those who are responsible for Islamic broadcasting. This responsibility is to oppose these threats, to expose them and discover their goals, and to work continually and struggle tirelessly to elevate the word "right" and the plain truth.

Iraq hosted the sixth session of the Islamic Nations Broadcasting Federation, based on the desire of the leadership and the people to sanctify spiritual values, in view of the fact that they form an important resource for Arabs and Muslims in their struggle. Prior to convening the General Congress, there was a meeting of the permanent committee for programming and news, where recommendations were adopted pertaining to producing programs and exchanging them among the radio and television broadcasters in the Islamic nations, which will strengthen the identification of Islamic peoples with each other. A broadcast competition festival was also established. It will be created around Islamic doctrine. There was also an agreement to produce television and radio series; the Iraqi Public Foundation for Radio and Television Broadcasting will produce the series, "Advice From the Magistrates."

The General Congress also approved those decisions. The administrative and financial committee also met and took the necessary administrative and financial steps for the organization.

Before the general congress was convened, the 10th Executive Council met, taking executive steps for the organization's progress. Among the most prominent ones adopted by the general congress was the issuance of a special statement about the Iraq-Iran war. They called upon the Iranian regime to respond to the resolutions of peace and negotiation which were called for by Islamic and international organizations. The congress emphasized Iraq's call for negotiation and an end to the war. It also issued a resolution about the Palestinian arena and the attempts at fragmentation and the loss of their Arab identity to which they have been subjected.

The meetings of the general congress were very successful, an opportunity for dialog and debate among the members. However, with regard to the planning for the relay programs which the Islamic nations discontinued, Dr al-Samarra'i indicated that a resolution was adopted in this area, asserting the necessity of transcribing the programs and spreading them throughout the Islamic nations in Arabic, English and French. In addition to this, Iraqi national television set out to produce a special program incorporating all of the aspects related to the features and phenomena of Islamic civilization under the title of "Islamic Features." It includes the history and the heritage and the embodiment of the glorious history of Islam. Iraqi national television has also produced about 30 installments concerning Islamic features in Iraq, and Iraq has proposed spreading these throughout the Islamic nations. Agreement was reached on this proposal.

The most prominent resolutions brought out by the conference were the need to stop the war, the call for negotiation in the statement, and attaching special significance to the Palestinian problem as an important Islamic problem.

Dr al-Samarra'i indicated that resolutions were adopted concerning the inimical propaganda represented by Zionist and imperialist propaganda, since the general congress of the Islamic Nations Broadcasting Federation will begin holding a seminar about this ideological invasion. This seminar will be held in Kuwait in 1984 and will cover all treatments of the Zionist and imperialist ideological invasion.

The following also participated in the congress as observers: The United Nations, UNESCO, the Culture and Science Organization of the Arab League, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Audience Research Center of the Arab League, and the Information Documentation Center for the Arab Gulf Nations.

9605

CSO: 5500/4505

DHAKA ELECTED TO OFFICE AT NONALIGNED INFORMATION MEET

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 5 Feb 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] Bangladesh has been elected a member of the Inter-Governmental Council (IGC) at the recently concluded Jakarta conference of Information Ministers of Non-aligned countries, reports BSS.

The newly-elected IGC of the Non-aligned countries is composed of 15 countries from Africa, eleven from Asia-Oceania, six from latin America-Caribbean two from Europe and ex-officio members

Bangladesh delegation at the conference was led by Information Secretary Mr. M. Mustafizur Rahman. The delegation included Mr. Toab Khan, Principal Information Officer and Mr. Motahar Hossain Counsellor Bangladesh Embassy in Jakarta.

The IGC has been entrusted with the task of promoting co-operation and communication in a spirit of collective self-reliance.

A delegation source said that Bangladesh played an active and effective role in the conference and that several amendments moved by it had been incorporated in the final declarations of the conference and in the Jakarta Appeal.

Bangladesh the source said had moved amendments to the draft declaration with regard to the media personnel training joint venture in newsprint production broadcasting organisation of Non-aligned countries and flow of information.

The conference in a resolution urged the member-countries to take urgent steps to implement during the current year the reduction of telecommunication tariffs and achieve more efficient and shared utilisation of telecommunication facilities and networks.

It recalled the recommendation of the UNESCO experts meeting of 1981 which considered feasible a DPBS tariff of US dollar 200 per month at each for a 24-hour duplex teleprinter circuit and a concessional rate of US dollar 1000 for a full-time telephone-type channel with provision of further proportionate concessions for channels of shorter duration.

The conference agreed to propose a joint meeting of Information Ministers and Telecommunications ministers of countries acting as redistribution centres of

non-aligned News agencies Pool to work out practical proposals on tariffs. This meeting could follow in Cairo the scheduled technical meeting of the Pool there in March 1984 which is to discuss improved communications network for accelerated exchanges.

The conference called upon the media and journalists of member states to make greater use of the news and information transmitted by the Non-aligned News Agencies Pool at reaffirmation of their commitment to promote plurality of sources of information objective and better understanding of each other.

It reaffirmed the need to continue the programme of agency staff training as called for by the Tunis Action Programme and need to work jointly within the framework of UNESCO and the International Programme for the Development of Cooperation (IPDC) to secure assistance on a priority basis for the training programmes submitted by the Pool.

CSO: 5500/7105

BRIEFS

TANGAIL EXCHANGE OPENS--Tangail, Feb 9--Minister for Law and Land Reforms Barrister K.A. Bakr underscored the need for expansion of telecommunication network for harmonious development of trade and commerce throughout the country, says a PID handout. He was speaking at chief guest at the commissioning function of a 1000 line automatic telephone exchange here today. Installed at the cost of Taka one crore 92 lakh the exchange will replace the old 400 line manually operated exchange and will increase connection capacity by one and a half times. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 10 Feb 84 p 12]

CSO: 5500/7106

OFFICIAL TELLS PLANS FOR INDIGENOUS SATELLITES

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 1 Feb 84 p 4

[Text]TRIVANDRUM, Jan 31 (UNI, PTD --India's space programme is oriented so as to launch multipurpose satellites with indigenous rockets in the 1990s according to Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Prof S Dhawan.

In an informal chat with newsmen at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) at Thumba, near here yesterday, he said that INSAT-1C, now under various stages of development, would be launched by mid-1986.

The satellite would be almost identical to INSAT-1B, now in geo-stationary orbit. Changes, if any would be made based on the performance of the INSAT-1B he said.

Prof Dhawan was here in connection with the distribution of prizes to the winners of an essay writing competition organised to mark the completion of 20 years of space research and 10 years of VSSC.

Prof Dhawan said all the transpondents in INSAT-1B would be switched on by the second half of the current year. By that time, the satellite's user-agencies such as the telecommunication department, All India Radio and Doordarshan and the Department of Meteorology would make full use of it.

He said the INSAT-1B was as good as any other satellite developed by the advanced countries during the infancy of their space programme.

VSSC director Vasant Gowariker said that India had to develop powerful rockets capable of carrying satellites weighing up to one tonne to a height of 26,000 km in the 1990s.

He said India could launch the polar satellite launch vehicles (PSLV) by 1988 and the work on this was under progress.

Dr (Mrs) Nalini Dhawan gave away the prizes. The first prize for national level essay competitions in Hindi and English, each carrying a cash prize of Rs 1000, was bagged by Pavan Jian (Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh) and Suman David (Trivandrum, Kerala) respectively.

BANGALORE GROUND STATION UNIQUE IN SOUTH ASIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Feb 84 p 5

[Text]

Bangalore Feb 6 (PTI)—The INSAT Master Control Facility (MCF) at Hassan, which Prime Minister Indira Gandhi will visit on 11 Feb to dedicate the INSAT system to the nation is the 'most sophisticated' and only one of its kind in South East Asia.

Situated amidst serene surroundings on a 13-hectare plot atop a hillock, the MCF forms the major element of the ground system for INSAT-1 satellite operations after separation from the launch vehicle. It not only receives signals sent by satellite, but also commands and give instructions to it.

The Rs 8 crore MCF consists of two independent satellite control earth stations, each with a fully steerable 14m diameter cyclopedic antenna, provided by the Space Applications Centre (SAC) and a satellite control centre. All electronics for the satellite control earth stations were built by SAC.

The site, located about 15 kms from Hassan, itself was selected after careful study.

All the civil, electrical and air-conditioning works of the MCF were executed under the supervision of the civil engineering division of the department of space.

The biggest complex is the Satellite control Centre—the nerve centre of the MCF.

The fully air conditioned octagonal shaped earth station has an attractive observation gallery from where visitors can watch the computer functioning.

Since the MCF requires uninterrupted power supply, necessary facilities for this have been provided.

The MCF provides satellite commanding ranging and testing, reception and processing of satellite telemetry, ranging and test data, reception and processing of VHRR data for quick look evaluation and orbital analysis.

It has voice and teleprinter links with the network operations control centre and with the meteorological data utilisation centre at Delhi.

The MCF acquired the now-in-orbit INSAT-1 B, soon after it soared into space shuttle on 30 August.

Even as all on orbit operations of INSAT-1 B by MCF were going on, serious snag developed when the satellite's all-important solar array failed to open up fully. Indian and American scientists, worked night and day at the master control facility, and successfully solved the problem by tilting the satellite towards the sun.

The satellite which was declared operational on 15 October as scheduled is continued to be commanded by MCF successfully.

CSO: 5500/7103

BRIEFS

REMOTE SENSING SATELLITE--Bangalore, Feb 9 (UNI)--Soviet space experts today concluded their week-long discussion with their Indian counterparts here, finalising details of the launch of the 900 kg Indian Remote Sensing satellite. The indigenously-built IRS will be launched from a Soviet cosmodrome in late 1986, according to director, Indian Space Research Organisation director (ISRO) Prof U R Rao. It is expected to be in orbit for three years. He said construction of the engineering model of the semi-operational three-axis stabilised satellite was almost complete. The satellite will be placed in a Polar sun-synchronous orbit at an altitude of about 900 km. The data from IRS will be used for resources surveying agriculture, forestry, geology, hydrology and meteorology. The IRS incorporates a payload consisting of three Linear Imaging Self-scanning sensor (LISS) cameras, one with a spatial resolution of 73 metres and a swath of 148 km, and two with spatial resolutions of 36.5 metres and combined swath of 147 km. Several major sub-systems such as reaction control system, reaction wheels, inertial sensors, horizon sensors, communications system and vital components of the camera, proposed for use in the satellite are being indigenously developed in ISRO units and are in various stages of development, according to ISRO sources. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Feb 84 p 5]

CSO: 5500/7104

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

ERICSSON PHONE EXCHANGE CONTRACT--Pakistan has ordered two new AXE telephone exchanges from Ericsson at a combined cost of about 70 million kronor. The order consists of a local exchange for Rawalpindi and an international exchange for Karachi. [Text] [Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 28 Jan 84 p 33] 11798

CSO: 5500/2598

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

NEW RADIO STATION--A local radio station was inaugurated yesterday afternoon in the city of Xai-Xai. The governor of Gaza Province, Aurelio Manave, presided over the event, which was attended by the director-general of Radio Mozambique, Leite Vasconcelos, and the director of the Mass Media Office, among other officials from various sectors. When he spoke, Colonel Aurelio Manave stressed the importance of this broadcasting station for the mass media, and said that it would help solve the problems of the local people. Governor Manave also indicated that the new radio station should be sure to broadcast the experiences and activities of the local people in the area of political, economic and social education. The director-general of Radio Mazambique declared during the ceremony that the station was made possible thanks to the efforts of the workers of Radio Mozambique in support of the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress. Leite Vasconcelos added that the current broadcasting equipment will not meet the needs of Gaza Province for news coverage, since it only covers a relatively flat area. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 18 Jan 84 p 3] 9805

CSO: 5500/44

DETAILS ON LEADING HI-TECH FIRMS GIVEN

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 6 Feb 84 p 4

[Article by Mike Jensen]

[Text]

COMPETITION between South Africa's two high-technology giants is pushing the country into the forefront of the telecommunications revolution.

Standard Telephone Cables (STC), in the Altech fold, and African Telephone Cables (ATC), in which Reunert has just bought a 25% shareholding, are both striving to start optical fibre production plants by the end of the year.

There are presently no facilities in Africa for drawing the optical fibre, which has vastly improved data transmission capabilities over the conventional copper cable. When the two plants become operational, South Africa will join European and North American leaders in the field.

Rapidly increasing demand from the Post Office — and the market expected to open up with the relaxation of the Post Office's single contract system in two years — has provided a strong incentive for South African companies to start local manufacture.

ATC has just announced plans to build a R6m optical fibre plant at Brits, capable of drawing 10 000 optical fibre-kilometres a year. STC is also spending R6m to establish a factory to make 10 000 fibre-kilometres a year.

Until March 1986, STC has the sole contract to supply the Post Office with complete fibre optic systems. However, it is under obligation to use optic cable supplied by ATC, the only South African company able to make the cable by coating imported optical fibre.

An International Telecommunications Union fibre optics standard is expected to be established in the next two years. By then the Post Office will be familiar with the technology and in a position to take on responsibility for the systems itself.

STC's sole contract will then fall away and contracts for the cable will be put out to open tender.

STC first appeared to have the edge on ATC, announcing early last year that it was going in for fibre drawing and expected to be operational by June this year.

But plans have been delayed by a variety of changes caused by the rapidly advancing technology.

Since then, the company has agreed to go in for a complete turnkey project with technology supplied by ITT.

"We have the lathe and tower on order and expect to have the first fibre ready for testing by the first quarter of next year," said an STC spokesman.

ATC's venture into fibre drawing is a much newer development.

Apart from the rapid growth of the market and the strategic importance of a product which will eventually supersede copper cable, Reunert's recent involvement is thought to have been the clincher.

It is unlikely that Reunert would have paid over R10m to become the second largest shareholder in a company dependent on STC — and

therefore indirectly on its major competitor Altech — for its supplies of raw material.

ATC's move was revealed just before news of the Reunert deal was announced.

Mr Peter Watt, managing director of ATC, said: "We had previously felt there was no need to go into the drawing of the fibre." But the recent developments have prompted ATC to change its policy.

ATC will obtain the technology from STC UK — no relation to STC SA. Mr John Cottrell, managing director of STC UK Telecommunications, was in Johannesburg last week finalising arrangements.

He believes ATC is well placed to match STC SA's earlier plans.

"ATC is already in full production laying up cable from the fibres, and it has excellent technical support from its UK shareholders GEC, STC and BICC, all of whom are involved in fibre optics."

As STC's 10 000 fibre-kilometre a year plant was designed to serve the full requirements of the South African market, the advent of ATC's operation is expected to raise substantially the level of competition for orders.

However, STC believes there is room in South Africa for two manufacturers.

"Fibre optics will be very popular on the Reef, as copper is susceptible to interference from lightning, while fibre systems are immune," said the spokesman.

CSO: 5500/45

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

NEW TV TRANSMITTER READY--The TV-1 transmitter at the Cradock transmitter station will start fulltime transmissions on 24 February. According to a statement issued by the South African Broadcasting Corporation in Johannesburg, the first month of operations will be considered a test period, in which the transmissions will emanate from the low-power standby transmitter. The normal TV-1 programs will be broadcast, but transmissions may be interrupted during this period without warning or apology to carry out necessary adjustments or repairs. Full-power transmissions will commence on 23 March, and the low-power standby transmitter will only come into operation in the event of a breakdown of the high-power transmitter. The service area includes Cradock, Marlow, and surrounding areas. [Text] [Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Feb 84]

CSO: 5500/50

BULAWAYO-LIVINGSTONE MICROWAVE LINK 'WORKING PERFECTLY'

Harare THE HERALD in English 21 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] BULAWAYO. THE microwave link between Bulawayo and Livingstone in Zambia is working perfectly, though it will only start operating permanently after the opening next month, the Assistant Postmaster-General (Planning and Rural Development), Cde Mazwi Dandato, said yesterday.

The link between Bulawayo and Victoria Falls was tested on schedule at the end of January and "there were no problems". On the Zambian side there were still a few last-minute touches under way, but all would be ready to function in March, he said.

Dialling

When the microwave link is fully commissioned, Victoria Falls residents will be able to watch ZTV for the first time, and dialling direct to Tanzania and Kenya will become possible.

The other link that the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation is working on is between Bulawayo and Francistown in Botswana.

There would be a slight delay in the commissioning of this microwave link, as it was behind schedule. Due to be commissioned in March, it would probably only be tested in May or June, Cde Dandato said.

The opening had not yet been arranged but it would probably be a tripartite one, involving Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia, he said.

CSO: 5500/48

EUROPEANS AGREE TO STANDARDIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

Paris ELECTRONIQUE ACTUALITES in French 27 Jan 84 p 9

[Text] The general managers of telecommunications organizations of 26 European member countries of the CEPT (European Confederation of Post Office and Telecommunications), meeting in Paris last January 19 under French chairmanship, decided to give their telecommunications equipment standardization activities a boost. The decisions arrived at go further than the strictly technical area, since they should (finally) lead to the concept of a European telecommunications market. At any rate, this is how the French PTT (Post Office) has interpreted these decisions, calling this meeting "a milestone, for it opens the way to the establishment of a true European telecommunications environment."

Among the decisions made, we should note the creation, within the CEPT, of a commission charged with establishing common standards and applying them progressively, and the establishment of common agreement procedures allowing equipment approved within a CEPT country to be automatically accepted in the other 25 countries.

In other words, the technical clauses which constitute protectionist locks to telecommunications markets will be eliminated, thus opening to European telecommunications businesses a common market of almost 200 million telephone users (it has not yet been decided who is European!). Of course, any undue optimism should be avoided: This sort of business must ripen slowly before becoming fact. Barriers will not go down without reciprocal arrangements, which means that we should expect negotiations among the CEPT countries in order to arrive at balanced exchanges. In this regard, the French-German agreement concerning the radiotelephone could be used as an example. But the main thing, perhaps, is the fact that European countries are reacting to the upheaval created by deregulation in the US, and they are determined to organize themselves to better face foreign competition.

6445

CSO: 5500/2604

BRIEFS

EUTELSTAT SUCCESSFUL--The operational start of 79 earth stations connected to the EUTELSTAT space system has already been approved by the EUTELSTAT ECS council, as indicated by the European Satellite Communications Agency in a bulletin published in Paris. The network will eventually be completed by the addition of the set of stations connected to the Satellite Multi-service System (SMS). Close to 165 stations of this type are being planned, as well as 17 television stations, two of which are ready to be put into operation. On the other hand, the operation of the ECS-1 satellite, placed into commercial service last October 12, is proceeding satisfactorily: three of the ten repeaters available for full time rental have been put into operation by France, the GFR, the United Kingdom, and there have been several hundred hours of occasional use for experimental or operational digital or analog televisual transmissions. In all, 9 contracts have been signed. They involved five repeaters for international use, and four for national use. Text Paris AFP SCIENCES in French 26 Jan 84 p 14 6445

FRENCH TV FOR NETHERLANDS--The Hague TV-5 to be broadcast to the Netherlands. The legal quarrel (1) which was threatening the broadcasting of the French-language TV-5 to the Netherlands is largely resolved as the result of an agreement signed on 25 January between the Dutch writers guild BUMA and CASEMA, the largest cable company. TV-5 is a French-language program produced in cooperation between France, Belgium, and Switzerland. Relayed by the European ECS satellite, it is intended to cover five European countries and the Maghreb. Text Paris AFP SCIENCES in French 24 Jan 84 p 15 6445

CSO: 5500/2604

INSTITUTE ON STRATEGIES FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS MARKET

Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT in German 2/3 Dec 83 p 4

[Text] Munich, 1 Dec 83--Munich's IFO [Institute for Economic Research] fears that the FRG may lose the ability to compete internationally in the field of telecommunications technology in coming years. It considers one cause to be the delayed development of the technical communications system.

The various innovation strategies in this field and their effects are examined in the report commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Economics.

According to the IFO's evaluation, on one hand such delayed development affects private businesses facing challenges in the area of research and development to maintain contact with international technical development. On the other hand, the report states that innovation potential in the area of products and increased productivity in the area of processes would be decisively determined by the performance characteristics of available telecommunications systems.

The IFO believes that although in general a significant role in solving the employment problem resulting from weak growth is attributable to new telecommunications technologies, the Federal Postal Administration will play a key role in the development of the telecommunications system. The IFO's report states that the Federal Postal Administration will be faced with important decisions affecting the development of communications networks.

According to the IFO, the following "modernization strategies" in this regard loom on the horizon:

Beginning in 1985, the telephone system will be digitalized within several decades and integrated with other digital systems into a ISDN [Integrated Services Digital Network] network.

Beginning in 1988, the existing local exchange network will presumably be expanded within several decades into a wide-band glass-fiber exchange network into which the other telecommunications systems will be integrated.

The telephone system will be converted to glass fibers beginning in 1985.

According to the IFO, however, at the present time the option for a real "innovation strategy" also still exists. In the IFO's view, this innovation scenario could be the following:

The decision to introduce glass fibers into the local exchange network will be made in 1983 or early 1984.

The laying of glass fibers in the local exchange network will already have begun in 1985, even if digital telephone traffic is not yet possible.

Digitalization will be stepped up beginning in 1985.

With a favorable development, beginning in 1985 there is the possibility of wide-band operation in glass-fiber direct subscriber lines of the local exchange network.

According to the IFO, however, the conceptions outlined presuppose that decision makers will agree to step up development of the wide-band exchange network and of the coaxial-cable distribution network for competition- and growth-policy reasons. The FRG would thus be setting long-term goals similar to those already established years ago by Japan and France.

For those involved, however, this strategy would entail enormous research, development and innovation pressure. But these are efforts which corporations would have to make anyway in the intermediate and long term if they want to keep pace internationally. The IFO believes that the timetable can be maintained only if the Ministry for Economics and the Federal Postal Administration and government decision makers decide without delay to coordinate their efforts.

According to the institute, the innovation scenario will require a considerable investment outlay by the Federal Postal Administration beginning in 1987. With regard to the presently expected modernization strategy, the IFO estimates additional investments of about 19 billion DM at current prices. The economic researchers believe that steps would have to be taken in this regard to guarantee that the Federal Postal Administration would not be increasingly forced, as in recent years, to help finance government expenditures.

At the same time, however, the IFO cautions against overestimating the overall and individual economic effects of the innovation scenario. The IFO believes that the following effects can be expected up to 1990:

An average annual increase of 0.3 percent in real gross national product.

An increase of 70 to 80 billion DM in gross production, in which connection of the sectors of electrical engineering (20 to 25 billion DM), marketing (12.5 billion DM), posts and telecommunications (6 billion DM), construction (4.5 billion DM) and other services (4 billion DM) would be particularly favored.

An employment effect of 50,000 to 55,000 jobs, half of which would be in the Federal Postal Administration itself.

But the institute maintains that even if no substantial contribution to solving the weak growth and labor-market problems of the German economy is achieved with an innovative growth strategy by the Federal Postal Administration in the short and intermediate term alone, it must not necessarily be concluded that a wait-and-see policy can be adopted in regard to developing a telecommunications infrastructure.

In the IFO's opinion, on the contrary, in a period of reduced overall economic-growth prospects, everything must be done to shore up competitive and future-oriented production sectors and to put them in a position to use existing market potentials early.

12580

CSO: 5500/2565

PAPER COMMENTS ON STATE'S ROLE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIELDS

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 10 Feb 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Telecommunications Controversy Continues"]

[Text] An imperial telephone proclamation from the year 1886 regulates the division of labor between the State and the telephone companies. It cannot be a surprise to anyone that time has passed it by on many occasions. This very day we are acquainted with a number of telecommunications services which are completely foreign to that legislation.

For lack of clear enactments the controversy over the division of labor between the Postal/Telecommunications Service and the private telephone companies has reached critical proportions. In 1982 the highest administrative court was called in as an arbitrator of differences. According to its interpretation the Postal Service may not by its own actions restrict the undertakings of the telephone companies.

Finally, there is the telecommunications law committee which, having pondered the questions in dispute for about a year, handed in its report on Wednesday. The result is an apparent compromise bordered by several divergent opinions. The bringing about of a final telecommunications bill is still a painful way off.

The toughest tree stump left in the burnt-over clearing is the reconciliation of the current system and attitudes with the challenges of the rapidly developing telecommunications operations. Emphasis ought to be on the sector of the latter, but the disjointedness of the telecommunications law committee does not, unfortunately, support this notion.

The obligation, provided by the bill, of the telecommunications establishments to work together--all telecommunications and telephone networks must be in joint use--is a step in the right direction. The same can be said of the endeavor to guarantee the users complete freedom of equipment selection and hookup.

If in the future Finland wants to exploit, uncurtailed, the new telecommunications technology, the Postal/Telecommunications Service and the private telephone companies will be forced into unavoidable collaboration. At the same time what is needed is constructive competition, which guarantees the users efficient and price--competitive services. Increasing government direction is not a guarantee of that.

We cannot get along without regulation of telecommunications operations, either. It can apply, however, only to the construction and upkeep of the telecommunications networks and the management of traffic in them. What sort of messages are sent along them is exclusively up to the sender and the recipient.

While preparing the final telecommunications bill, we ought to place special stress on the opinions of experts who have their sights set on tomorrow and beyond. The parties holed up behind their emplacements are not, in all their attitudinizing, able to see far enough into the future.

12327

CSO: 5500/2603

FRANCE DELIBERATES ON LAUNCH OF DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITE

Paris AFP SCIENCES in French 2 Feb 84 pp 25-26

[Article: "French Direct Television Satellite in Right Orbit"]

[Text] Will France launch its first direct television satellite at the end of next year as planned? Secretary of State for Communications Georges Fillioud was to deliver the "evaluation" report requested by the government before the end of the first quarter for a final decision.

However, those near Fillioud are already saying that they resolutely favor pursuing the program that might have appeared questionable after the recent publication of the report by Gerard Thery, former general director of telecommunications, charged in September with a research mission by Louis Mexandeau, minister of the PTT [Postal, Telecommunications and Cable Broadcasting].

An important element of the final decision, the negotiations underway with Luxembourg to include the Grand Duchy in the project and, through it, the Luxembourg Television Company (CLT), have not been completed, but French negotiators indicate that they have encountered "a clear will to succeed" in their negotiating partners.

Although CLT stockholders do not like this costly solution, Luxembourg has often let it be understood that it would launch its own direct broadcasting satellite, whose programs could be received on French territory, if France did not accept it on its own. Now, the three French channels currently receive approximately Fr 2.7 billion in advertising annually.

It is estimated that an additional Fr 1.2 billion could still be attracted. This sum leaves enough room in France for an additional channel underwritten by advertising, but not for two. By involving CLT in a partnership operating a fifth channel, which could be operational by 1986-87, the risk of competition with RTL-Television [Luxembourg Radio and Television] and a serious disturbance of the French advertising market would be avoided. In addition, the French government could have assurances that the new channel would respect French standards on the professional code of ethics and quality. It is said that in this matter, the interests of the two countries converge.

On the purely national level, the data are as follows: in theory, France has a choice between pursuing the development of its two large direct broadcasting satellites (TDF1 and TDF2), whose broadcasts can be received by anyone who has installed a special antenna; or it can remain with the present telecommunications satellites that are ten times less powerful and, therefore, cheaper, which can relay television broadcasts but only to reception centers that have large antennas. Only cable network centers can be equipped with these antennas. Now, the most optimistic projection is that only 40% of French households will be connected to cable in the year 2000.

The cost of operating the system--TDF1, TDF2, plus spare parts representing a third satellite--is estimated at Fr 2.1 billion, including launching. Theoretically, with a satellite that has three channels, operating costs would reach a sum of between Fr 90 and 120 million annually per channel. Now, TDF currently bills about Fr 480 million annually to each channel.

As the French become equipped to receive broadcasts, the launching of a direct broadcasting satellite could make it possible, under certain conditions, to realize substantial savings over the operation of the traditional radio network.

Very efficient reception antennas, particularly a "flat" antenna (compared to the present parabolic antennas) that would make it possible to receive broadcasts from several direct television satellites are being developed.

9969

CSO: 5500/2605

PHILIPS SEEN LOSING GROUND IN TECHNOLOGY

Amsterdam DE TELEGRAAF in Dutch 14 Jan 84 p 49

[Article by Peter van Nuijsenburg: "Philips on the Defensive Because of Failing Marketing. In Battle For Advanced Technologies"]

[Text] Amsterdam, Saturday -- Philips threatens to miss the boat in a large way in developing and marketing advanced information technology.

During the conference, held this week in Maastricht, about the revolutionary cable experiment in Dutch South Limburg, which is soon to be started, the giant from Eindhoven surprised friend and foe by, at the last minute, not entering the battle for this order independently, but by making a giants' alliance with ITT-NSEM, and with ITT subsidiary Robert Schmitz from Zaltbommel.

How surprising this maneuver was appeared from the fact that the Dutch firm Deltakabel from The Hague, on Wednesday night still made an attempt in great haste, with an adjusted offer, to grab at least part of the prize.

The character of the collaboration between Philips and the ITT combination raises a lot of questions in industrial circles. Philips gets to adapt the infrastructure of the cable network, and to prepare it for the advent of new services like subscriber TV, interactive video text, data communication and alarm duties. Next to that, Philips can supply the machinery to the homes of the subscribers, such as the so-called subscriber module, with which the subscriber can call up all the services available to him.

But the big jobs, the advanced computer technology and the machinery for data communication, video text and subscriber TV will come from the factories of the ITT combination. This relationship is also mirrored in the extent of participation in the offer: Philips 30 percent, ITT and Robert Schmitz 70 percent, Philips, however, thinks that no far-reaching conclusions should be attached to this. After all, for now, only an experiment is at stake in Limburg, so they suggest.

The project is going to cost around 70 million Dutch guilders, of which 70 percent is being footed by the government. This share from The Hague is the last straw that Deltakabel is clinging to. By way of a vigorous lobby, this

company will attempt to turn the tide in order at least to be allowed to construct a complete network in one of the three cities involved in the project. But also because Deltakabel can not supply the complete gamut of possibilities, the deck appears to have been shuffled. In the beginning of February the die will be cast, after which the contracts will be signed in March.

Central management of ITT in the United States has recently appointed its Dutch subsidiary "market leader" in the field of advanced cable technology. When this order is granted definitely, this will mean an enormous success for this ITT subsidiary. With Dutch government support, it now gets the opportunity to fix up a showcase in Limburg with which it can attract customers from all over the world. That is why ITT sees advantages in continuing the collaboration with Philips on a larger scale, but for the time being Philips refuses to commit itself.

The collaboration with ITT does not result in friction with ATT [as printed], with which Philips recently decided to get together in order to secure its share in the development of telephone exchanges. ATT [as printed] is a formidable competitor for ITT on the communications market, but the different projects do not "bite" one another, a Philips spokesman said.

The collaboration with ITT again raises doubts about the ability of Philips to react adequately to new, very fast developing technologies. The technical know-how is amply available in Eindhoven, but according to insiders, what is lacking is an alert marketing strategy. Result: one is surprised by the new development, and subsequently tries to limit the damage by entering into collaboration with other firms, or by acquiring a share in a leading firm.

Pessimists see for Philips not even a great role reserved anymore in the development of advanced technology, if the tables are not turned soon. According to these bilious forecasts, the firm will be forced to limit itself to the manufacturing of shavers, irons, coffee-makers and other home appliances.

12568

CSO: 5500/2597

AGENCY BEGINS FIRST OPTIC FIBER CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 14 Feb 84 p 4

[Article: "Telecommunications Agency's Experimental Project Started--Optical Fiber TV Cable"]

[Text] On Monday the Telecommunications Agency started the first optical fiber cable TV system in Norway. The system is in Jevnaker, where 50 households have now signed up to participate in an experimental project for the Telecommunications Agency which is to be in progress through 1985. The object is to gain experience in various forms of communication through a cable system for private individuals, industry and the public sector. By the end of the experiment the Telecommunications Agency hopes to have enlisted about 800 households. Last fall 200 reported their interest.

Optical fibers are the basis of the telecommunications network of the future and mean something more than ordinary cable TV. The new cable makes it possible to sit home in one's own living room and perform various services--including 2-way communication--by means of the television set. For example, banking services, video telephone, remote instruction, conference television, and calling of data banks for the purpose of accessing information.

In brief, an optical fiber cable consists of a filament-thin quartz glass core in which the signals consist of light instead of current. This technology provides considerably greater capacity and thereby produces the ability for a far more varied offering of telecommunications services through these same filaments than today's copper cable. It is also more reliable and less subject to noise and picture interference.

At the Telecommunications Agency it is estimated that fiber optics will be in general use for subscribers here at home as early as 10 years from now. Today the price for the equipment for hooking up a subscriber is about 30,000 kroner per unit, and in 10 years it will be about 2000 kroner according to forecasts.

Jevnaker was chosen as the experimentation site for the Telecommunications Agency's project because it is considered that the community is large enough to "defend" itself and voice protests against new technology.

PORTUGAL

U.S.-PORTUGUESE NEGOTIATIONS ON SATELLITE TRACKING STATION

Lisbon DIARIO DE NOTICIAS in Portuguese 3 Feb 84 p 7

[Text] Negotiations between Portugal and the United States to build a GEODSS (Ground-Based Electro-Optical Deep Space) station in Portugal will begin this month.

According to ANOP, the exact location of the station has not yet been determined, but it will be south of the Tejo River in either Alentejo or Algarve.

The procedure will be extremely slow, according to the report, as the Americans initially proposed a location that should be approved by the government, thereby triggering the process of expropriation of the agreed property.

The same source indicated that "the entire process will probably not be completed before 1985 or 1986," since Portugal will have to first approve the selection of the site and then the expropriations, before negotiating the exact terms of the agreement.

The same source denied that this tracking station, which will occupy the space of a soccer field, has anything to do with the agreement on the Lajes Base in the Azores, saying that there is no relationship or parallel between the two.

Defense Minister Mota Pinto recently announced during his trip to the United States that this project, which was budgeted for 9 million escudos at the beginning of last year and will be financed by NATO, would be resumed.

He admitted at that time that the installation of this radar and telecommunications system was "linked to a computer under the command of NATO in Brussels," and would be located around Foia, a fact which was earlier denied.

9805

CSO: 5500/2602

ERICSSON PLANS SALES OFFENSIVE IN U.S. FOR AXE EXCHANGE

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 28 Jan 84 p 33

[Article by Johan Myrsten]

[Text] L.M. Ericsson is now going to launch a sales offensive for its telephone exchanges on a wide front in the world's number one telephone country: the United States. Ericsson's management says it has a good chance of achieving total AXE sales of between 2 and 3 billion kronor per year by the end of the 1980's.

Quite a number of Ericsson's AXE exchanges will be in operation in the United States as early as 1986, according to manager Ove Ericsson, who heads what is perhaps the group's most traditional area of business: public telecommunications. By that we mean the one-third of Ericsson's sales that consists of telephone exchanges, PBX's, transmission equipment, and so on for public telephone systems.

The new offensive in the United States is directed primarily at the big market opening up now that the giant American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) has been split up effective with the first of this year. The AT&T has been broken up into seven Bell companies (Southern Bell and so on), each of which is a kind of regional counterpart to Sweden's National Telecommunications Administration--although each is privately owned.

Each of the Bell companies is responsible for most (but not all) telecommunications traffic in its section of the United States.

Want To Spread Purchases

The ordering requirements of the Bell companies are considered large, and even though their traditional supplier, Western Electric, is expected to remain the main supplier, the new companies have shown that they want to distribute their purchases among several firms.

It is here--in the stronghold of telecommunications technology--that Ericsson feels it has a chance for big future orders in tough competition with the slimmed-down AT&T and Canada's Northern Telecom, among others.

According to Ove Ericsson, L.M. Ericsson's management is totally convinced that the AXE system is so technically advanced that it can win orders from the Bell companies worth "upwards of 2 billion kronor per year" by the end of the 1980's.

Long-Distance System

There is also the market consisting of the independent companies which, alongside the AT&T (Ma Bell), have handled mainly parts of the long-distance system in the United States.

One of those so-called common carrier companies gave Ericsson an order for three AXE exchanges as far back as a couple of years ago. Combined with sales of transmission equipment for cables and long-distance systems and so on, that has resulted in an annual turnover totaling about 500 million kronor, a figure that is expected to rise further.

New Division

The expanded AXE offensive in the United States will be carried out partly by placing marketing people all around the country to work up a market among the various Bell companies.

In addition, the number of technicians at Ericsson's engineering office in Dallas will be doubled to a total of about 100. And a special division for AXE products is being established within the American subsidiary, Ericsson, Inc.-- whose chief executive is Hakan Ledin.

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CSO: 5500/2598

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